

**KEY FIGURES**

**2,150,451**

IDPs in Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, Yobe, Nasarawa states and Abuja through DTM as of 31 August 2015

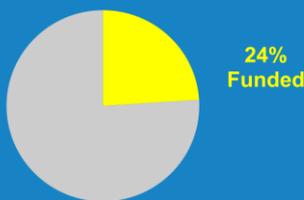
**2,333 refugees/  
asylum seekers**

Refugees and Asylum as of 31 August 2015 (UNHCR)

**FUNDING**

**USD 29,611,512**

Requested for the situation



**PRIORITIES**

- Identifying vulnerable groups
- Protection monitoring
- Advocating for and implementing targeted services
- Capacity strengthening in protection and coordination
- Advocacy for policy and legal framework
- Advocating for comprehensive durable solutions for IDPs and refugees



A high-level meeting between UNHCR and Nigerian singer, Madam Onyeka Onwenu on final touches regarding IDP song. PHOTO: GARRIBA@UNHCR 26 August, 2015.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Threat to Lives of IDPs in Taraba/Plateau States**

- Taraba State Governor recently instructed traditional rulers to ensure that all IDPs return to their places of original residence and that all lands confiscated from IDPs or returnees be returned to them.
- A number of IDPs thereafter returned and attacks against them have been reported, with at least 7 civilians killed.
- There were also reports of killings of returnees to the state, as they were engaged in clearing their farmlands and rebuilding their houses.
- In Plateau State, daily communal clashes between herdsmen and local farmers have resulted in the killing, maiming and displacement of civilians, as well as destruction of 25 entire villages.

**Continued insecurity situation**

- Protection Monitoring Summary of August 2015 has revealed forced displacements, killings, security incidents, destruction of property and arbitrary detentions as most prevalent protection abuses.
- Following the 11 September attack in Malkohi Camp in Yola, Adamawa State, and ensuing PSWG discussions on enhanced security measures towards IDPs in camps, UNHCR, as lead for the PSWG, proposed an initial draft of recommendations for enhancing security and protection at IDP sites.
- PSWG members are providing input to the draft recommendations to be compiled and thereafter presented to the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) and discussed with the Humanitarian Country Team.



## SECURITY AND POLITICAL CONTEXT

- Though the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) has again hailed the Nigerian military for what it has called “its string of successes in the battle” against insurgents and an impressive performance that has shown that the terror group can be defeated within the time stipulated by President Muhammadu Buhari, the security atmosphere in the Northeast remains tense, following sustained battle between the Nigeria Military and insurgents in the region. The terrorists seem to have resumed their guerrilla tactics – pretending to be fleeing, just to return and take the military unawares with dastardly bombings, as was the case with multiple attacks in Maiduguri recently in which some 54 persons were killed.
- Because of the prevailing situation in the Northeast, the Nigerian Army in Borno State has restricted the movements of all vehicles, bicycles and animals during the Sallah celebrations to protect people’s lives and property against any possible attack by suspected Boko Haram insurgents during the two-day Eid-el-Kabir festivities in the state.
- The Nigerian Army has said that more than 200 insurgents have surrendered to the military, following the capture of the strategic Borno town of Banki along the nation’s border with Cameroon. But, members of the dreaded sect, supposedly fleeing from advancing government forces, destroyed over 60 houses in three villages in Adamawa State, according to a local hunter, who spoke to journalists on the telephone Sunday.
- Still on 26 September, at least 20 people were killed while several others were injured when terrorists invaded Malari and other surrounding villages of Konduga Local Government Area of Borno State, an area the military claimed it had seized from the group.
- Meanwhile, Anambra and Kogi states were involved in bloody encounters between gunmen, suspected to be members of the terror group, and security forces, which left a policeman and six others dead. The Anambra duel claimed the lives of three of the gunmen while three others were killed in Kogi.
- In a bid to motivate soldiers and give them a sense of belonging in the fight against insurgency, the Chief of Army Staff, Lt.-Gen. Tukur Buratai, has organised a Sallah "get-together" for wounded soldiers in Yola, Adamawa State capital.
- Meanwhile, reacting to reports that the Nigerian delegation to the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly missed a meeting on help for displaced persons, the Presidency has assured that President Muhammadu Buhari’s administration is fully committed to the rehabilitation and well-being of all persons, who have been displaced or adversely affected by the insurgency.

- According to Niger security sources, Islamic insurgents operating out of Nigeria raided a village across the border in southern Niger Republic and massacred at least 15 civilians.
- Due to the persistent volatile security situation, the Nigerian Army has appealed to Nigerians to team up with the military in its efforts to end the insurgency. Maiduguri, Major-General Yushau Abubakar, Theatre Commander in charge of Operation “Lafiya Dole” told reporters in Maiduguri on 26 September that one of the key roles the people could play was volunteering vital information.
- After alleged raids on the Islamic militants' camps near the border with Cameroon led to the rescue of women and children thought to have been held captive, as well as the arrest of 43 suspected enemy fighters and intelligence about bomb-making, the Army has sent "a very strong and serious final warning" to some prominent individuals and political groups who hail from Borno State in particular and from the Northeast in general against sabotage of the efforts to end terrorism.
- The international community is deploying enormous efforts to assist the government in the fight against the insurgents. To this end, the United States has pledged to release up to \$45 million to help Nigeria and other countries to fight against terrorism, *Reuters* has reported. The White House National Security Council spokesperson, Ned Price, was quoted as saying that the money would be sent to help in defence services, including military training, to support Nigeria, Benin, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger in their efforts to defeat the militant group.
- President Muhammadu Buhari has said the increase in violence and terrorism by ISIS and other terror groups are helping to embolden insurgent groups in Africa to pledge allegiance to the former, to gain local traction. Citing the pledge of allegiance to the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL) by the Islamist sect in March 2015 as an instance, he has urged for the support of the United Nations in the areas of security and intelligence gathering.
- Buhari also said that military option alone will not be enough to defeat ISIL, the Nigerian insurgents and other extremist organisations. Buhari, who spoke in New York at the Global Leaders’ Summit on Countering ISIL and Violent Extremism, said the United Nations and the international community needed to do more to contain ISIL.
- The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has asked President Muhammadu Buhari to urgently arrest the resurgence of terrorist activities, especially bomb attacks, by reorganising the management, administration and operations of the Department of State Services (DSS) and other security agencies. The party said from all indications, the DSS under the watch of the current Director- General, Alhaji Lawal Daura, does not seem to be in full grip of the intelligence situation in the country.
- Two suspected female bombers were arrested at the Gwarinpa Estate, Abuja on 5 October. The girls wearing hijabs, but not covering their faces, were standing under a pedestrian bridge, as if waiting for somebody. More than 15 plainclothes police operatives arrived in two vehicles and stormed the place where the two girls, aged between 16 and 18, were standing, and picked them up. They are currently being quizzed.

## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### OPERATIONAL CONTEXT AND HIGHLIGHTS

- On 23 September, 2015 the UNHCR Representative had a meeting with Lady Onyeka Onwenu, Director General of the National Centre for Women Development (NCFWD), to discuss modalities for collaboration on the launching of an IDP song titled "Not Alone" on the situation of IDPs and refugees. The production and launching of the song is part of advocacy for strengthening the humanitarian response to IDPs in Nigeria. A team led by the UNHCR country Representative and Lady Onyeka Onwenu departed on mission to Adamawa State on 28 September for the video shooting for the song.
- On 23 September, UNHCR Representative to Nigeria and other staff members held a meeting with the Director of the National Centre for Women Development (NCWD), with focus on finishing touches, particularly the shooting of video on an IDP song, 'Not Alone', in the Adamawa State capital, Yola, and further collaboration.
- On 28 September, the UNHCR Representative and External Relations/PI Officer travelled to Yola, Adamawa State, to assist Nigerian singer Onyeka Onwenu in the shooting of the last clip for the IDP song, 'Not Alone', as well as to witness the second lap of the shooting of a UNHCR IDP video in camps in Yola. The shooting exercises took place on 29 September. NCWD and UNHCR are working on a song that will draw attention to the plight of IDPs, particularly women and children.
- On 24 September, UNHCR Deputy Representative received the Country Director of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and the NRC Maiduguri Area Manager at the Abuja Office. UNHCR received a briefing on the newly established presence of the NRC and its activities, which will be concentrated in Maiduguri. Discussions focused on areas of possible collaboration and it was agreed that the NRC will share a proposal for collaboration with UNHCR on emergency shelter.
- UNHCR participated in the ISWG on behalf of the PSWG on 29 September. Key discussions included sectoral responses to the cholera outbreak, planning for the HNO/HRP and a discussion on the issues of enhanced security at IDP sites.
- There is an ongoing response to the cholera outbreak in Maiduguri including HCT-level advocacy, coordination by the Borno PSWG and support to most vulnerable families with non-food items and shelter.
- PSGWG-Nigeria participated in a three-day annual retreat of the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) from 29 – 30 September in Geneva. Participants addressed both strategic and operational issues in their different operations. Among others, the retreat also featured high-level panels on centrality of protection and "frontline humanitarianism." Showcasing the role of local NGOs in Adamawa, Nigeria, the panel on "Frontline Humanitarianism" called for improved relationship between international and local actors. The following are some issues which require follow-up by the Nigerian Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG):
  - ✓ It was clearly stated at the GPC that both HNO and HRP must incorporate a specific section on protection.
  - ✓ Encourage PSWG members to fill the GPC's survey and organized country-level consultations to provide inputs to the GPC 2016 - 2019 Strategic Framework.
  - ✓ Need for PSWG to support the development of HCT protection strategy, with the support of the Global Protection Cluster and taking into account lessons learnt from other country situations (South Sudan).
  - ✓ Ensure the participation of relevant government counterparts from Nigeria in the planned regional workshop on the domestication of the Kampala Convention co-organized by the GPC Task Team on Law and Policy and the African Union. The workshop will be held in November 2015.
- UNHCR participated in the Child Protection Sub-Working Group (CP SWG) meeting on the 30th of September. Discussions focused on the finalization of the child protection case management system and the need to coordinate the system with the gender-based violence information management system, as well as the CP SWG's contributions to the sector's draft recommendations on enhancing security and protection at IDP sites and the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO).
- UNHCR participated in the final planning meeting for the Women and Girls Summit on the 2 September at the National Centre for Women Development (NCWD), the summit is expected to hold 15 October in which UNHCR will participate. NCWD thanked UNHCR for its partnership with the organization including in the production of the "Not Alone" song for IDPs.
- UNHCR had a meeting with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) at the latter's office in Abuja on the 2 October to discuss the way forward on the joint protection monitoring project in 9 States of the Northeast and Northcentral States. It was agreed that the project be revised as follows:
  - ❖ Need to review number of monitors and focus on states where humanitarian needs are high, specifically likely Adamawa, Borno, Yobe and Gombe.

- ❖ Overhaul of methodology: UNHCR impressed upon NHRC the need for a complete rehaul/reorientation of the PM system which will take into account changed methodology, coverage, monitors (as need be), tools, and coordination etc.
  - ❖ It was proposed that the objective of the programme be refocused to enable immediate response to urgent humanitarian needs.
  - ❖ Need to bringing in INGO partner into the program to provide capacity/coaching for the monitors (either through a tripartite or bilateral agreement).
  - ❖ It was agreed that monitors will need to be carefully selected (involving also hiring of new monitors) to be able to speak the local language(s); live within the communities; monitors should be brought in as NHRC project staff, working full time; and will need to be fully committed to monitoring.
  - ❖ UNHCR insisted on the need to separate UNDP and UNHCR monitoring. UNHCR suggested NHRC to continue working with UNDP on human rights monitoring and to separately continue with UNHCR on protection monitoring.
  - ❖ UNHCR requested NHRC to also share any product/analysis/reports that has been developed from the PM project similar to what has been submitted to UNDP.
- On the 5 September, the new ProCap Child Protection Coordinator for the Child Protection Sub-Working Group from UNICEF had a meeting with UNHCR Protection Unit to receive briefing on PSWG operations in Nigeria, after the briefing, the Child Protection Coordinator expressed her willingness to strengthen child protection coordination. During the meeting it was agreed that the two-subsectors need to work more closely, fully integrating their approaches within PSWG.
  - UNHCR chaired the Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. At the meeting, UNHCR gave a protection update, including the sector response to cholera and the relocation of IDPs in schools in Maiduguri. UNHCR further briefed the sector as to the Global Protection Retreat and discussed next steps for the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO). The PSWG agreed as to the way forward for ranking the severity of protection concerns for the sector's contribution to the overall needs comparison tool for the HNO.
  - UNHCR participated in a combined CCCM/ Shelter and NFI Working Group meeting held at NEMA office on the 6 October with the objective of discussing the planned relocation of IDPs from schools in Maiduguri and support that can be provided to the process from the national level. At the meeting the following were suggested for follow-up:
    - ✓ Deploy a support mission from Abuja to Maiduguri as a form of solidarity as the relocation is a very challenging and complex.
    - ✓ A detailed budget with gaps should be requested from the High Powered Committee which is coordinating the relocation in Maiduguri to enable humanitarians clearly understand the needs.
    - ✓ It was also agreed that prior to the relocation exercise the absorption capacity of camps designated to receive IDPs should be assessed based on the standard space allocation per IDP/family.
    - ✓ HCT, PSWG, and other protection actors should continue to advocate for the relocation to be used to resolve the separation of IDP families in exiting camp arrangements and not to perpetuate. NEMA/IOM informed that this was already under discussion.
  - UNHCR worked with partners drafting an advocacy note on the relocation plan which calls for the voluntariness of the process, ensuring participation of affected populations and improvement of services both during and after the relocation.
  - As at 27 August, 10,013 Nigerian returnees have arrived from Cameroon to the border town of Sahuda in Adamawa State. Such returnees are being registered in Sahuda and transported thereafter to Mubi for screening. They are then transported either to Malkohi, NYSC or Fufore camp in Yola; to Borno State; or to host communities.

- The federal government, through one of its major interventions in the crisis in the Northeast of the country, the Presidential Initiative for the Northeast (PINE), has launched special mobile classrooms, equipped with instructional materials for schools established at IDP camps in the troubled region.
- The Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) Factsheet for August is being finalized, with key protection trends including family separation, as many Nigerian returnees report being arrested and sent back to Nigeria with their families remaining in Cameroon, as well as many returnees reporting lack of documentation.
- The National Centre for Women Development (NCWD) has said that next month, it will introduce vocational skills training in IDP camps in the Federal Capital Territory. The director-general of the centre, Ms Onyeka Onwenu, has told reporters in Abuja that the training will be part of long-term solutions to the problems faced by IDPs in Nigeria.
- The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has, for its part, distributed relief materials to Nigerian refugees in Diffa province of neighboring Niger Republic.

## REFUGEE OPERATION

### REGISTRATION

- Four asylum seekers were registered during the review period. They consist of 2 Central Africans, 1 Beninois and 1 Syrian.

### RSD

- A one-day refresher training was conducted for 2 NCFRMI RSD Officers in Lagos on the filling of the RSD Assessment form.

### RESETTLEMENT

- A case of 4 persons of Sierra-Leonean nationality was referred to the Review Officer for resettlement consideration.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

- The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has distributed relief materials to Nigerian refugees in Diffa province of neighboring Niger Republic. The information officer of the agency in the Northeast, Abdul Kadir Ibrahim said the distribution was in continuation of efforts to reach out and provide succor to IDPs, who are victims of insurgency in the Northeast, no matter where they might have fled into within and outside the shores of Nigeria.

#### **Contacts:**

Angele Dikongue-Atangana, UNHCR Representative to Nigeria & ECOWAS, DIKONGUE@unhcr.org, Tel: +234 (0) 92916667; Cell: +234 8181530428.

Mr. Hanson Ghandi Tamfu, External Relations / PI Officer BO Abuja, TAMFU@unhcr.org, Tel: +234 (0) 8090359400; Cell: +234 9027573068.

#### **Websites**

<http://data.unhcr.org/SahelSituation/country.php?id=502>

<http://nigeria.humanitarianresponse.info/Protection>